February 27, 2005

**Docketing Department Public Service Commission of SC** Post Office Drawer 11649 Columbia, SC 29211

Ref." Docket No. 2004-357-WS

In reference to the proposed rate increase from \$28.86 to \$40.92 per month in the Plantation Ridge and King's Grant area, I find this increase to be unacceptable.

A 42% increase is an exorbitant amount, which is not consistent with the any rate of inflation in our area, and frankly appears to be an opportunity to claim unjustified profits, or to cover up sloppy cost controls or decisions on the part of the petitioner.

It's high time for the rape and plunder of our average citizen to be reined in, and only those who are supposed to represent us, as elected officials have the power to keep these actions in check.

Wonder if the expansion or growth in this area has anything to do with it? There seems to be several activities taking place in this region and it would be nice to have someone else pick up the tab to be able to service this expansion

If indeed DHEC regulations are to blame for these increases, which I find hard to believe, then, DHEC has proceeded with shameless disregard to the consumer. It certainly is not a government agency's mandate to impose such regulations without taking into consideration the impact to the general public; the same public, which is the basis and existence of the government.

I find it very difficult to believe that any company needs 42°/o increases to its revenues in selected areas to offset apparent cost increases.

It would be nice if I could go to my employer and ask for a 42% raise, but then again, we are not living in a fantasy world.

Sincerely:

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